

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 DRC-01 /148 W

----- 092055

R 281325Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1823

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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1. TORONTO STAR CARRIES STORY SEPTEMBER 26 ENTITLED "CANADA'S AMBASSADOR BACKS ARMY COUP IN CHILE." STORY INCLUDES TEXT OF CONFIDENTIAL CABLE ALLEGEDLY SENT BY CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO CHILE, ANDREW ROSS, ON SEPT. 13 (WHILE ROSS WAS IN BRAZIL). (EXTAFF DECLINES VERIFY AUTHENTICITY.) CABLE QUOTES ROSS TO THE EFFECT THAT IF ALLENDE HAD REMAINED IN POWER CHILE MIGHT HAVE FACED "A FULL-SCALE CIVIL WAR."

2. IN ALLEGED CABLE ROSS EXPRESSES "REGRET THAT EXTRA-CONSTITUTIONAL AND UNDEMOCRATIC MEANS WERE ADOPTED" BUT NOTES THAT VIEWS MUST BE TEMPERED BY FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS:

"A. COUNTRY WAS ON VERGE OF ANARCHY AND ARMED FORCES OFFERED ONLY VIABLE TEMPORARY ALTERNATIVE;

B. MILITARY HAD TRIED AND IN OWN VIEW HAD EXHAUSTED EFFORTS AT COLLABORATION WITH ALLENDE;

C. CONSTITUTIONAL IMPARTIALITY OF MILITARY WAS UNDER IMMEDIATE THREAT THROUGH CAMPAIGNS BY MARXIST AND ULTRAS ON THE RIGHT;

D. THERE WAS AN IMMEDIATE NEED TO FEED THE POPULATION;
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E. INFLEXIBILITY OF CHILEAN CONSTITUTION."

3. ROSS IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT MILITARY ACTION
WAS NOT A "RIGHTIST COUP" AND PREDICTING THAT MODERATES
OF ALL POLITICAL PERSUASIONS WILL SWING BEHIND THE
INTERIM GOVERNMENT.

4. ROSS CONCLUDES CABLE BY NOTING THAT DELAY IN CANADIAN
RECOGNITION "COULD CONTRIBUTE TO A DELAY IN CHILE'S
RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS."

5. FULL TEXT FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.
SCHMIDT

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OTTAWA02338
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973093/aaaaaccr.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <14-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PINS, CI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005